

Application No. (unassigned)
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-908
Page 6

REMARKS

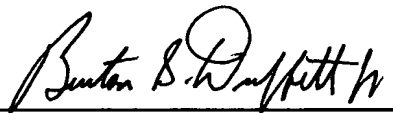
The present Amendment modifies the claim format and eliminates the use of multiple dependency only. The subject matter of Claim 22 is now presented in new claims 32 to 37.

An Information Disclosure Statement is being filed herewith.

The examination and allowance of the Application are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Filed: February 21, 2002

Application No. (Unassigned)
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-908
Abstract - Page 1 of 1

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated February 21, 2002

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A1 The invention refers to a molecularly imprinted polymer, a method of preparing a molecularly imprinted polymer material, and the use thereof. According to the invention a support and a composition comprising at least one monomer, and a template, in a polymerisation medium is polymerized with a free radical initiator, whereafter the template is removed from the molecularly imprinted polymer obtained. The polymerisation is confined to the surface of the support, preferably by confining the free radical initiator to the support by bonding or adsorption. The molecularly imprinted polymer may be used in chromatography, for separations, in chemical sensors, in molecular recognition as stationary phase in capillaries, in selected sample enrichment or in catalysis.

Application No. Unassigned
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-908
Mark-up of Claims - Page 1

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated February 21, 2002
Mark-Up of Claims 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 21, and 23

4. (Amended) A supported molecularly imprinted polymer according to [any one of claims 1-3] claim 1, wherein the support is selected from the group consisting of porous and non-porous, planar and non-lanar inorganic and organic supports.
5. (Amended) A supported molecularly imprinted polymer according to [any one of claims 1-4] claim 1, wherein the support is a particle and the free radical initiator is an azo-initiator that is bound to the surface of the particle.
7. (Amended) A supported molecularly imprinted polymer according to [any one of claims 1-4] claim 1, wherein the initiator is an azo-bis-amidine initiator that is adsorbed to the surface of the support and is insoluble in the polymerisation medium.
10. (Amended) A supported molecularly imprinted polymer according to [any one of claims 1-9] claim 1, wherein the polymerisation on the support is repeated at least once with a different composition to obtain at least one further layer of a molecularly imprinted polymer; a layer of different polarity; or a layer of other functional properties.

Application No. Unassigned
Attorney's Docket No. 003300-908
Mark-up of Claims - Page 2

Attachment to Preliminary Amendment dated February 21, 2002
Mark-Up of Claims 4, 5, 7, 10, 11, 21, and 23

11. (Amended) A supported molecularly imprinted polymer according to [any one of claim 1-10] claim 1, wherein the template is selected from the group consisting of organic or inorganic molecule entities, ions, antibodies, antigens, amino acids, peptides, proteins, nucleotides, DNA-bases, carbohydrates, drugs, pesticides, and derivatives thereof.

21. (Amended) A method according to [any one of claims 12-20] claim 12, wherein the polymerisation on the support is repeated at least once with a different composition to obtain at least one further layer of a molecularly imprinted polymer; a layer of different polarity; or a layer of other functional properties.

23. (Amended) Azoinitiator as a means of carrying out the method of [any one of claims 12-21] claim 12, characterised in that it is the reaction product of glyxidoxypropyltrimethoxysilane (GPS) and azo-bis-(cyanopentanoic acid) (ACPA).